

CHAPTER 7

SUSTAINMENT TRAINING PROGRAM

This chapter recommends a sustainment program for units to conduct for qualified Dragon gunners. Training should progress into collective training for applicable MTPs and field manuals. Unit commanders can get qualified Dragon gunners either from the United States Army Infantry School or from a unit-run gunner qualification program (Chapter 6). After completing either of these training programs, each gunner must take part in sustainment training to maintain his tracking skills.

7-1. GUNNER SUSTAINMENT TRAINING

Units conduct gunner sustainment training to maintain a high level of gunner proficiency. Training is divided into monthly, quarterly, and annual training phases.

a. **Monthly Sustainment Training.** Units conduct monthly training eight months of the year. The other four months, they conduct quarterly qualification or verification (on the DGT).

- One month, gunners perform half the tasks in Table 7-1 (page 7-2) using Firing Tables 1 and 2.
- In alternate months, gunners perform the other half of the tasks using Firing Tables 3 and 4.
- Each month, each gunner must score 16 out of 20 hits.

b. **Quarterly Training.** Each quarter, gunners fire practice qualification (Firing Table 7) and qualification (Firing Table 8). Each table includes 20 target engagements. Gunners must complete successfully all the tasks shown in Table 7-1. Anyone who fails to verify his qualification must retrain and retest. The qualification standards follow:

19 or 20 hits	—	Expert
17 or 18 hits	—	Sharpshooter
16 hits	—	Marksman

c. **Annual Training.** The commander follows one quarterly training period a year with an annual live-fire exercise. This exercise really tests the gunners' training. Commanders must ensure that only qualified Dragon gunners fire the live missiles. They must exclude from the live-fire exercise any gunner who fails to qualify on DFTT Table 6 or DGT Table 8. Allowing unqualified gunners to fire jeopardizes everyone else present.

7-2. COLLECTIVE TRAINING

Though the Dragon MILES offers an excellent way for gunners to keep their tracking skills honed (Table 7-2, page 7-2), leaders must still provide sustainment training.

TASK NO	TASK	TNG FREQ	TIME	REMARKS
—	Explain Emergency Decontamination Procedures for an M47 Medium Antitank Weapon	M	10 min	Oral Presentation
—	Explain Emergency Destruction Procedures for an M47 Medium Antitank Weapon	M	10 min	Oral Presentation
—	Tracking Sustainment Training	M	4 hrs	Practical Exercise
071-052-0001	Maintain an M47 Medium Antitank Weapon	M ¹	10 min	Practical Exercise
071-052-0004	Restore an M47 Medium Antitank Weapon to Carrying Configuration	M ¹	5 min	Practical Exercise
071-317-3306	Perform Misfire Procedures on an M47 Medium Antitank Weapon	M ¹	15 min	Practical Exercise
GTA 17-2-11 GTA 17-2-13	Recognize Friendly and Threat Armored Vehicles	M ²	15 min	Practical Exercise
071-052-0003	Construct a Fighting Position for an M47 Medium Antitank Weapon	M ²	—	Perform as part of an ARTEP ³ or FTX
071-317-3302	Prepare an M47 Medium Antitank Weapon for Firing	M ²	30 sec	Practical Exercise
071-317-3324	Prepare an Antiarmor Range Card	M ²	15 min	Practical Exercise
071-052-0006	Engage Targets with an M47 Medium Antitank Weapon	A	8 to 16 hrs	Practical Exercise
M = Every month M ¹ = First month M ² = Second month A = Annually ³ ARTEPs are available at Reimer Digital Library.				

Table 7-1. Training tasks for Dragon gunners and assistant gunners.

TRAINING SEQUENCE	RECOMMENDED FREQUENCY: TIMES PER YEAR	EQUIPMENT USED
Squad, platoon, or company FTX	4	Dragon/ MILES
Battalion FTX	2	Dragon/ MILES
Platoon or company MOUT exercise	1	Dragon/ MILES
Squad, platoon LFX	2	Dragon/ MILES or LTIDs (laser-target interface devices)
Externally evaluated battalion MTP	1	Dragon/ MILES

Table 7-2. MILES training program.